

West German Citizenship
Illegally Being Offered to
Austrian Citizens

13 January 1954

1/29085

RM/aff

On 26 November 1953, the following information was obtained from Informant 0030, who in turn received it from a sub-source of unknown reliability:

Source contends that the West German government has adopted the unofficial policy of extending West German citizenship to Austrian citizens who move to Western Germany and apply for West German citizenship. This policy was initiated as a means of tapping the Austrian male population eligible for service in the future West German Army. All male applicants must declare their willingness to serve with the future West German Army, when the elements of that army are called up. Lothar Greil, formerly of Gmunden, Upper Austria, is allegedly already received German citizenship and is permanently residing with his family in Munich, Germany. Greil has also allegedly been restored to (HEAD) his former rank of Lieutenant, and has been informed that at the appropriate time, he will be recalled to active duty via postal channels. Erich Bernmayr, (HEAD) who is now employed in Munich, Germany, as an Executive Editor with the DZ (Deutsche Soldatenzeitung - German Soldiers' Newspaper), reportedly received a long term contract. Bernmayr and his wife also expect to become German citizens in the near future. Source avers that Bernmayr is anxious to arrange for the simultaneous continuation of his Austrian citizenship, and is allegedly being supported by the West German Government Press Department in his endeavors for dual citizenship.

Source: (B-3)

Sub-source: (F-3)

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Page 1 of 1 page

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